LOCAL EXAMINATION PROCESSING

(A) PURPOSE AND GOAL

(1) SFT recognizes the need to facilitate the timely scoring of written certification examinations. To meet this need, a local processing program was developed for students to receive their written certification exam results directly from the ARTP/ALA.

(a) An ARTP is required to utilize local processing.

(b) An ALA has the option to utilize local processing.

(B) ARTP/ALA RESPONSIBILITY

(1) Ensure that local processing is in compliance with SFT policies and procedures.

(a) Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the local processing program and/or revocation of accreditation.

(2) Maintain the written certification examinations, answer keys, and course completion certificates in a secured, locked area.

(a) Ensure only the ARTP Manager and ALA Administrative Officer and their designees have access to the examinations, answer keys, and certificates.

(b) If a test is lost or test security is breached, the ARTP Manager and ALA Administrative Officer must notify SFT immediately.

(c) ARTP/ALA shall be charged a minimum of $500.00 to help offset the cost of developing another test. This fee must be paid within 30 days of being invoiced.

(d) Failure to notify SFT of a breach in test security may result in the loss of accreditation.

(3) In coordination with the Primary Instructor, verify student eligibility for taking the written certification exam.

(4) Issue a score letter (formatted to CFSTES specifications) to each student taking the written certification exam.

(5) Issue course completion certificates (formatted to CFSTES specifications) to each student successfully completing the course and passing the written certification exam.

(a) Record and track certificate numbers issued to students.

(6) Mark the appropriate section of the CFSTES Scantron answer sheet whether the student passed or failed the certification exam.

(7) Submit a course roster and Scantron answer sheets for each class to SFT within two weeks of course completion.

(8) Collect and forward course registration fees.

(9) Submit an annual report to SFT that includes the number of classes processed, the number of students in each class, and the serial numbers of the course completion certificates that were issued.

(C) PROCESS

(1) Local processing is established at the time of the ARTP/ALA's accreditation or annual renewal.

(a) Authorization is valid for the accreditation period.

(2) Requests from an ALA to process exams locally must be forwarded to the Chief of State Fire Training.

(3) SFT sends an electronic copy of each exam requested, a corresponding answer key, a supply of CFSTES Scantron answer sheets, and numbered course completion certificates to the ARTP Manager or ALA Administrative Officer.

(4) Students attending an ARTP/ALA pay the course registration fee to the ARTP/ALA, successfully complete the course, and take the CFSTES written certification exam on a CFSTES Scantron answer sheet or another answer sheet available for grading by the ARTP/ALA.

(a) If another answer sheet is used by the ARTP/ALA, students must complete all sections of the CFSTES Scantron answer sheet except the TEST ITEMS section.

(5) ARTP/ALA designee grades the exams using the method available at the local level.

(a) Students failing the certification exam may retake it following SFT policies and procedures.

(6) ARTP/ALA designee distributes results to the students.

(a) Score letter only for those students failing the written certification exam.

(b) Score letter and course completion certificate for those students passing the written certification exam.

(7) Within two weeks of class ending date, the ARTP/ALA designee sends the following to SFT:

(a) Completed class roster identifying class title, location, primary instructor, beginning date, ending date, and each student's name, address, test score, and course completion certificate number.

(b) Completed CFSTES Scantron answer sheets with student's name, social security number, address, and test information.

1. If used by ARTP/ALA to score the exam, TEST ITEMS will have been completed by the student
2. If not, the ARTP/ALA designee must mark the pass/fail information in the appropriate section on the back of the CFSTES Scantron answer sheet.

(8) SFT enters the student information into the computerized student database via the CFSTES Scantron answer sheets.

LOCAL EXAM PROCESSING REQUEST

ACCREDITED REGIONAL/LOCAL ACADEMY:	ACCREDITATION PERIOD:	ACADEMY APPROVAL LEVEL. ☐ Fire Fighter ☐ EMT ☐ Level 1 ☐ Level 2/3
ACADEMY DIRECTOR NAME AND TITLE:		PHONE:
ACADEMY DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE AND TITLE:		PHONE:
SHIPPING ADDRESS: (No P.O. Boxes)		
EXAM STORAGE LOCATION AND ADDRESS:		

REQUESTED EXAM TITLE	REQUESTED EXAM TITLES	REQUESTED EXAM TITLES	REQUESTED EXAM TITLES
☐ COMMAND 1A	☐ EMT-I BASIC	☐ INVESTIGATION 1A	☐ PREVENTION 1A
☐ COMMAND 1B	☐ EMT-I REFRESHER	☐ INVESTIGATION 1B	☐ PREVENTION 1B
☐ COMMAND 1C		☐ INVESTIGATION 2A	☐ PREVENTION 1C
☐ COMMAND 2A	☐ INSTRUCTOR 1A		☐ PREVENTION 2A
☐ COMMAND 2B	☐ INSTRUCTOR 1B	☐ MANAGEMENT 1	☐ PREVENTION 2B
☐ COMMAND 2C	☐ INSTRUCTOR 2A	☐ MANAGEMENT 2A	☐ PREVENTION 2C
☐ COMMAND 2D	☐ INSTRUCTOR 2B	☐ MANAGEMENT 2B	☐ PREVENTION 3A
☐ COMMAND 2E	☐ INSTRUCTOR 2C	☐ MANAGEMENT 2C	☐ PREVENTION 3B
		☐ MANAGEMENT 2D	
☐ DRIVER/OPERATOR 1A		☐ MANAGEMENT 2E	☐ PUBLIC EDUCATION 1
☐ DRIVER/OPERATOR 1B			

STATE FIRE TRAINING USE

DATE REQUEST RECEIVED:	ACCREDITATION CURRENT? ☐ Yes ☐ No	CONTROL NUMBER ISSUED:	NUMBER OF CERTS ISSUED:
DUE DATE:	EXAM MASTERS COMPLETED:	SHIPPING INFORMATION (DATE AND UPS TRACKING):	

California State Fire Training

PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Bus (916) 445-8444

1131 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax (916) 445-8128

NOTICE OF FEE INCREASE

June 1, 2007

Beginning **January 1, 2008**, CFSTES and FSTEP fees will change as follows:

- Certification fees will increase by $10.
- FSTEP course registration fee will increase $15 per student.
- CFSTES course registration fee will increase $30 per student and will include the student manual/supplement provided by the SFT bookstore. Additional materials may be required from other sources, and are listed in the Course Information and Required Materials Manual available on our website at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/sftdownloads.html.

If you have any questions regarding the fee increase, you may contact Christy Owen, Manager, State Fire Training - Certification and Registration at (916) 327-2129 or via e-mail at christy.owen@fire.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE TRAINING

Application for Certification
FEE SCHEDULE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION — CAL FIRE — SINCE 1885

State Fire Training
ATTN: Cashier
PO Box 997446
Sacramento, CA 95899-7446
Website: www.fire.ca.gov

#	CERTIFICATION	Each	Total
	Chief Officer	$ 90.00	
	EMT-I Initial Certification *5921-59210-142500-22*	$ 25.00	
	EMT-I Recertification *5921-59210-142500-22*	$ 25.00	
	Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator I	$ 65.00	
	Fire Chief *[ ]#1 Receive Application $50 [ ]#2 Submit Application $200 [ ]#3 Pace IV Review $250*		
	Fire Fighter I *(Scantron Application Form Required)*	$ 40.00	
	Fire Fighter II *(Scantron Application Form Required)*	$ 40.00	
	Fire Instructor I	$ 65.00	
	Fire Instructor II	$ 65.00	
	Fire Instructor III	$ 65.00	
	Fire Investigator I	$ 65.00	
	Fire Investigator II	$ 65.00	
	Fire Marshal	$ 65.00	
	Fire Mechanic I	$ 65.00	
	Fire Mechanic II	$ 65.00	
	Fire Mechanic III (Master Mechanic)	$ 65.00	
	Fire Mechanic Recertification	$ 60.00	
	Fire Officer	$ 65.00	
	Fire Prevention Officer	$ 65.00	
	Fire Protection Specialist	$ 65.00	
	Hazardous Materials Technician	$ 65.00	
	Hazardous Materials Specialist	$ 65.00	
	Plans Examiner	$ 65.00	
	Public Education Officer I	$ 65.00	
	Volunteer Fire Fighter *(Scantron Application Form Required)*	$ 25.00	
	Duplicate Certificate *(List Additional Certificates On Separate Paper)*	$ 35.00	
	▪ *Certificate Title:*		
	▪ *Date Issued:*		
	Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-23 (except EMT) Total Submitted:		

Effective January 1, 2008

I, the undersigned, am the person applying for certification. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that all statements made therein are true in every respect. I understand that misstatements, omissions of material facts, or falsification of information or documents may be cause of denial.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ *DATE:* _____

APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED AND ATTACHED WITH PAYMENT * FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE *

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Department: _____ SS #: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Department Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE **EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008**

CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE TRAINING

Application for Course Certificates
FEE SCHEDULE

State Fire Training
ATTN: Cashier
PO Box 997446
Sacramento, CA 95899-7446
Website: www.fire.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION — CAL FIRE — SINCE 1885

#			Each	Total
	RETAKE EXAMS			
	CFSTES Course	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-20*	$ 35.00	
	EMT-I Course	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-22*	$ 35.00	
#	***DUPLICATE COURSE CERTIFICATES*** *(List Additional Certificates on Separate Paper)*			
	CFSTES	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-20*	$ 35.00	
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Date Completed:*			
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Date Completed:*			
	EMT-I	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-22*	$ 25.00	
	▪ *Date Completed:*			
	FSTEP	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-21*	$ 10.00	
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Date Completed:*			
	▪ *Include a copy of the course roster from the instructor with your name listed.*			
#	***COURSE EQUIVALENCIES*** *(List Additional Certificates on Separate Paper)*			
	Course Equivalency Certificate	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-20*	$ 60.00	
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Date Completed:*			
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Date Completed:*			
#	***PACE III REVIEW*** *(List Additional Certificates on Separate Paper)*			
	PACE III REVIEW	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-23*	$ 60.00	
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	▪ *Course Title:*			
	REGIONAL/LOCAL ACADEMY ACCREDITATION/REACCREDITATION			
	Application Processing	*Accounting Code: 5921-59210-142500-11*	$500.00	
	Accreditation Site Review Team Costs *(not to exceed $2,000.00)*			
		TOTAL SUBMITTED:		

Effective January 1, 2008

I, the undersigned, am the person making application for the above. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that all statements made therein are true in every respect. I understand that misstatements, omissions of material facts, or falsification of information or documents may be cause of denial.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ *DATE:* _____

APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED AND ATTACHED WITH PAYMENT * FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE *

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Department: _____ SS #: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Department Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE **EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2008**

A Report by a Panel of the

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

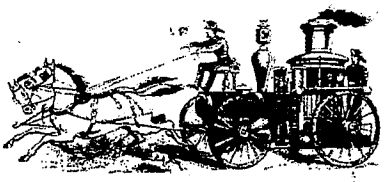
ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM:

Assessing Performance

April 2007

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION®

EXEMPT FIREMAN'S CERTIFICATE



BODIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bodie, Mono County, California

TO ALL WHOM THESE GREETINGS SHALL COME, GREETING

Know ye that

.....

.....

Having served as an Active Fireman for the period of five years in the Bodie Fire Department, regularly organized under the laws of the State of California, therefore,

I, _____ *Chief Engineer of said Fire Department, do hereby certify that said*

_____ *is an Exempt Fireman, and entitled to all the benefits and privileges provided for in Sec. 3338 of the Political Code of the State of California.*

Dated this _____ *day of* _____ *198__*

J. Frank Balfe

Chief Engineer Bodie Fire Department

Sec'y Board of Fire Delegates, B.F.D.

Structure Fire "Watch Out" Situations

The following are common "watch out" situations for structure fires. Although a great deal of emphasis has been placed on wildland situations, these apply to one of the other aspects of our job: ***STRUCTURE FIRES***. These are not all inclusive; however, they are common trends that when noted, can prevent injury and even death.

♣ ***Ventilation crews are driven off the roof by fire extension before you make entry.***
Verbal coordination between the interior attack crews and the roof crew is vital to effective fire suppression. This will also directly affect tactical decisions, such as "offensive" vs. "defensive", or the extent of advancement into the fire building. Radio communications are VITAL!

♣ ***You flow water on the seat of the fire and make no progress.***
The BTU/fire load is exceeding the GPM being flowed, or the water is not reaching the true seat of the fire. Reassess line and nozzle selection; add additional attack lines to the suppression operations, or request ventilation.

♣ ***You can hear the sound of vertical ventilation operations being conducted behind you.*** Fire conditions or construction types may limit the ability of ventilation crews to perform their operations directly over the seat of the fire. This is especially common on new multi-story, multi-pitch tract homes. It is important that the interior crews coordinate their progress with the ventilation crews so as not to have ventilation operations pull fire over the top of them.

♣ ***You feel uncomfortable or apprehensive for no apparent reason.***
Trust your instincts, as they are rarely wrong. Look, listen and feel for reasons why your instincts are alerting you. Alter your tactics accordingly, and communicate the situation to the I.C / Operations.

♣ ***Your low-air audible on your S.C.B.A. begins to sound, and you still have not located the fire.***
It is important to keep track of your time inside a working fire. One of the best ways to "time stamp" an incident is to note the amount of time that it typically takes before your low air audible sounds. This is achieved through hands-on training exercises. If you know that it takes 20 minutes to exhaust an S.C.B.A. bottle, and you have progressed in on an interior attack, and have still not located the seat of the fire, you should reassess fire ground tactics and/or hose line selection. Again, good coordination between interior attack crews and ventilation crews can mitigate this problem by shortening knockdown time.

♣ ***You can hear the fire burning; however, you cannot see it.***
There is nothing like the sound of a building on fire; it makes a very distinctive sound. Lack of vertical or horizontal ventilation will allow the thermal balance to push down on interior crews limiting their visibility and progress. In this situation, interior crews should retreat to a safer location until conditions can be improved by means of ventilation, or by additional lines be put in service.

♣ ***You realize that you have made entry under, or are working beneath a mezzanine or façade.***
Increasingly, commercial strip malls are incorporating facades onto the front of the buildings for cosmetic reasons. These mezzanines and facades are generally "afterthoughts" and are not incorporated into the structural members of the building, but are instead secured onto the fronts with fasteners. These are a threat to interior attack crews in numerous ways. First, they can contain "hidden fire" that goes undetected by crews until a catastrophic collapse occurs, thereby trapping firefighters or disrupting water flow on hose lines. Second, the façade can collapse during extinguishment / overhaul operations crushing crews beneath. In this situation, keep in mind that generally there are no mezzanines or facades above roll-up doors, as they are used for delivery purposes. These make for good entry points. These also provide a larger entry/egress point, limiting congestion.

Structure Fire "Watch Out" Situations

♣ ***You are in zero visibility, the thermal balance is banking down, and air is being drawn in rapidly behind you.***

At this point, the fire is drawing for more oxygen, and temperatures are rising, thereby banking the heat down on top of interior crews. Within minutes, your location will become untenable. At this point, interior crews must retreat and reassess tactics, including ventilation and additional lines.

♣ ***You are unable to communicate with the "Incident Commander" or "Operations" on the fire ground.***

The I.C. is responsible for both resources and personnel status. If you are unable to communicate with the I.C. or other divisions, you must retreat to a location at which clear communications can be made. Compromised communications can have a direct affect on the success of tactics and crew safety. Good communications are a must!

♣ ***You are working with unfamiliar crewmembers.***

It is imperative that all members of an engine or truck company maintain crew continuity and communication. If there is an overtime crewmember working, they may not be familiar with tactics and strategies of your company, or may simply lack the experience necessary to successfully complete tasks assigned to them. It is the company officer's responsibility to insure that any crew members not assigned to their company are made familiar with standard operating guidelines, specialized equipment (chainsaws, rotary saws, recip. saws, jaws), and special hazards that pertain to their particular company and first-in area.

♣ ***You arrive at scene with smoke and flames showing from the roof and initiate an interior attack.***

Time of day, area of involvement and rescue support an aggressive interior attack; however, be aware that with fire venting through the roof, the fire has progressed enough to compromise the structural integrity of the roof and other structural members. With most modern construction being "light weight", sustainable burn time is shortened, and roof collapse is likely. Progress your interior lines methodically, and keep the I.C. informed of your progression. Continually reevaluate the fire behavior, effectiveness of the interior attack, and the "risk vs. gain" factor. Do not forget to use all of your senses.

♣ ***You make an interior attack on a working structure fire, and must rely on vertical ventilation to progress to the seat of the fire.***

Progression of interior attack lines can be hampered by thermal balance, visibility, heat, and structural layout. If you are unable to progress interior lines without the benefit of vertical ventilation due to excessive smoke and heat conditions, limit your exposure and reassess your tactics. Communicate the behavior to the I.C. and initiate other means of making the interior environment more tenable, such as horizontal ventilation, taking the windows of the fire room from the exterior, or P.P.V.

♣ ***You arrive at the scene to find a working fire; however, your entry will be delayed.***

This can occur for numerous reasons, such as water supply, long hose pulls, access problems, staffing needs/shortages (NFPA 2-in/2-out), or forcible entry challenges. Initiate your actions based on current and expected fire conditions. Remember that with most fire loading in buildings being petroleum-based byproducts (plastics, synthetics, and foams), fire intensity and growth is increased.

♣ ***Multiple companies (engine and truck) are making entry through a single entry point.*** Single door entry/egress points are designed for just that, a single person to pass through in a "non-emergency" situation. Keep in mind that should the need arise, such as in a flashover situation, the impact of evacuating multiple companies through one door could prove to be fatal. Care should also be taken to secure doors, so as not to prevent egress/ingress, or allow for fire extension.

PREHOSPITAL 9-1-1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE:

The Role of the United States Fire Service
in Delivery and Coordination

Authors and Contributors

Franklin D. Pratt, M.D., FACEP

Medical Director
Los Angeles County Fire Department

Medical Director
Emergency Department
Torrance Memorial Medical Center
Torrance, CA 90505

Assistant Clinical Professor
Geffen School of Medicine
UCLA

Paul E. Pepe, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine, Surgery, Public Health and Chair, Emergency Medicine
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and the Parkland Health and Hospital System

Director, City of Dallas Medical Emergency Services
for Public Health, Public Safety and Homeland Security

Steven Katz, M.D., FACEP, EMT-P

Associate Medical Director
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
West Palm Beach, FL

President
National Paramedic Institute
Boynton Beach, FL

Chairman
Department of Emergency Medicine
Memorial Hospital West
Pembroke Pines, FL

David Persse, MD, EMT-P, FACEP

Physician Director
Houston Fire Department
Emergency Medical Services

Public Health Authority
Houston Department of Health and Human Services

Associate Professor of Surgery
Baylor College of Medicine

Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
University of Texas Medical School
Houston

PREHOSPITAL 9-1-1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE: THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES FIRE SERVICE IN DELIVERY AND COORDINATION

ABSTRACT

Prehospital 9-1-1 emergency response is one of the essential public safety functions provided by the United States fire service in support of community health, security and prosperity. Fire service-based emergency medical services (EMS) systems are strategically positioned to deliver time critical response and effective patient care. Fire service-based EMS provides this pivotal public safety service while also emphasizing responder safety, competent and compassionate workers, and cost-effective operations. As the federal, state, and local governments consider their strategic plans for an 'all hazards' emergency response system, EMS should be included in those considerations and decision makers should recognize that the U.S. fire service is the most ideal prehospital 9-1-1 emergency response agency.

INTRODUCTION TO FIRE SERVICE-BASED EMS

EMS is an essential component of the public services provided in the United States. The Federal EMS Act of 1973 defined an EMS system as "an entity that provides for the arrangement of personnel, facilities, and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery of health care services under emergency conditions in an appropriate geographic area" (EMS Act 1973, (P.L. 93-154)). Much of the dialogue in the public arena today concerning prehospital 9-1-1 emergency medical care often focuses on ambulance services and, accordingly, may ignore the important distinction between prehospital 9-1-1 emergency medical response and the other key uses of the ambulance-based, out-of-hospital providers for non-emergency medical and transportation services.

The primary purpose of this discussion is to underscore the reality today that the fire service has become the first-line medical responder for critical illness and injury in virtually every community in America. Regardless of whatever agency provides medical transportation services, the fire service is the agency that first delivers on-scene health care services under most true emergency conditions. Therefore, prehospital 9-1-1 emergency response, in support of community health, security and prosperity, is not only a key function of each community; it has become, almost universally, a principal duty of the fire service as well. In addition, fire service-based EMS systems are strategically positioned to deliver time critical response and effective patient care rapidly. Furthermore, the fire service-based EMS accomplishes this rapid first response while emphasizing responder safety, sending competent and compassionate workers, and delivering cost-effective operations.

Although the role of the fire service is central in 9-1-1 emergency medical response, financial, political, cultural and organizational factors often can make the conversation about prehospital care providers confusing and complex for many decision makers in local communities. The goal of this discussion is to resolve and demonstrate that the use of fire service equipment and personnel to provide 9-1-1 emergency response is the best approach for a community regardless of size. This basic premise is consistent with recent Institute of Medicine publications that have placed EMS at the intersection of public safety, public health, and medical care. The U.S. Fire Service is uniquely qualified to be at that intersection and in the following pages, the history, evolution, and current medical capabilities of the fire service will be reviewed.

The Maltese Cross and Its Legacy for Fire-Service Based EMS

During the Middle Ages, the Knights of Malta, the forerunners of the fire service, took care of travelers and specifically burn victims from the Crusades and associated battles. Eventually, the Knights of Malta adopted the Maltese Cross as their emblem and it has created a revered legacy for fire departments.

The Knights originally began their work as the creators, administrators and care givers in a hospital in Jerusalem. As such, they were known as the Hospitallers of Jerusalem, starting their work before the year 1000 AD. For the next two hundred years, they helped the sick and poor and they set up hospitals and hospices across Europe.

Eventually, the Hospitallers became firefighters out of necessity. The conflict of the Crusades often threatened the hospitals that they had founded. So, they adapted and even engaged in battle to protect their hospitals. As a result, they also became firefighters because one of the weapons of war at that time was the glass fire bomb. The fire bomb, thrown by the enemy, created a horrendous inferno. After rescuing a fellow knight from the inferno and extinguishing the fire, a Hospitaller was awarded a medal, shaped like a Maltese Cross to honor those actions.

As conflict continued, the Hospitallers needed an identifying mark for their armor. This was necessary because without identifying markings, it was difficult to tell who was who because everyone was wearing similar armor in battle. They adopted the Maltese Cross as their identifying mark. (Maltese Cross, 2007, Foster, 2007)

In essence, more than 1200 years ago, some of the earliest ancestors of the fire service were "all-hazards responders." They initially started as caregivers for the sick and then became firefighters to protect their own. These are two of the concepts firefighters still believe in today and hold as their most sacred responsibilities—caring for the sick and caring for their own.

Longstanding History of Fire Service-Based Medical Care in the U.S.

The fire service has formally been part of the 9-1-1 emergency care delivery system since EMS began in the late 1960's. Many of the original prehospital EMS providers were firefighters, who had "special" additional training in providing medical services during emergencies that occurred outside the hospital. Today, essentially every firefighter receives emergency medical training and the fire service provides the majority of medical services during emergencies that occur out of the hospital, just as it has done for the past

four decades. Of the 200 largest cities in the United States, 97% have fire service-based prehospital 9-1-1 emergency medical response (*JEMS* 200-City Survey, 2006) and the fire service provides advanced life support (ALS) response and care in 90% of the 30 most populated U.S. jurisdictions (cities and counties) (IAFF/IAFC Fire Operations Survey, 2005).

Although the origin of the modern relationship between emergency medicine and fire departments is cited as the 1960's, the involvement of the fire service in patient care began much earlier. For example, in 1937 a fire department ambulance in New York transported famous song writer Cole Porter to the hospital after a horseback riding accident.

While the fire service was involved in many famous anecdotal events, other accounts demonstrate its profound effect on public safety and patient care procedures. In 1921 Claude Beck, M.D., a surgeon at Western Reserve University in Cleveland, called the fire department so he could apply a "pulmotor," an artificial breathing apparatus, to attempt resuscitation in a patient who died unexpectedly during surgery (Beck, 1941). Dr. Beck continued to be involved in resuscitation and today is recognized as one of the founders of the science of resuscitation.

The following quote from the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in 1928 summarized the evolving relationship between fire department-based out-of-hospital emergency care and subsequent resuscitation in the hospital.

> "...inhalators are introduced: Cases of gas asphyxiation occur; the rescue crew of the fire department is called and resuscitates the patient. A physician sees the resuscitation and is impressed by the effectiveness of the treatment. Some time thereafter he finds himself confronted with a child which he has delivered, and which has come through a prolonged labor. It refuses to breath effectively, in spite of the application of all the ancient practices. The respiratory center has been depressed by the diminished blood supply to the brain resulting from compression of the head, and needs more than the